NEWS RELEASE



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District: District 9 - Bishop, www.dot.ca.gov/dist9

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS SELECTS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR OLANCHA / CARTAGO FOUR LANE PROJECT

Inyo – District 9 Director, Tom Hallenbeck announced today that the preferred alternative for the Olancha / Cartago 4 lane project is a combination of Alternative 3 and Alternative 4.

To make an informed decision, Tom Hallenbeck reviewed the initial study/environmental assessments, project documents, comments received, survey results, public meeting results, and considered the recommendation of the project development team.

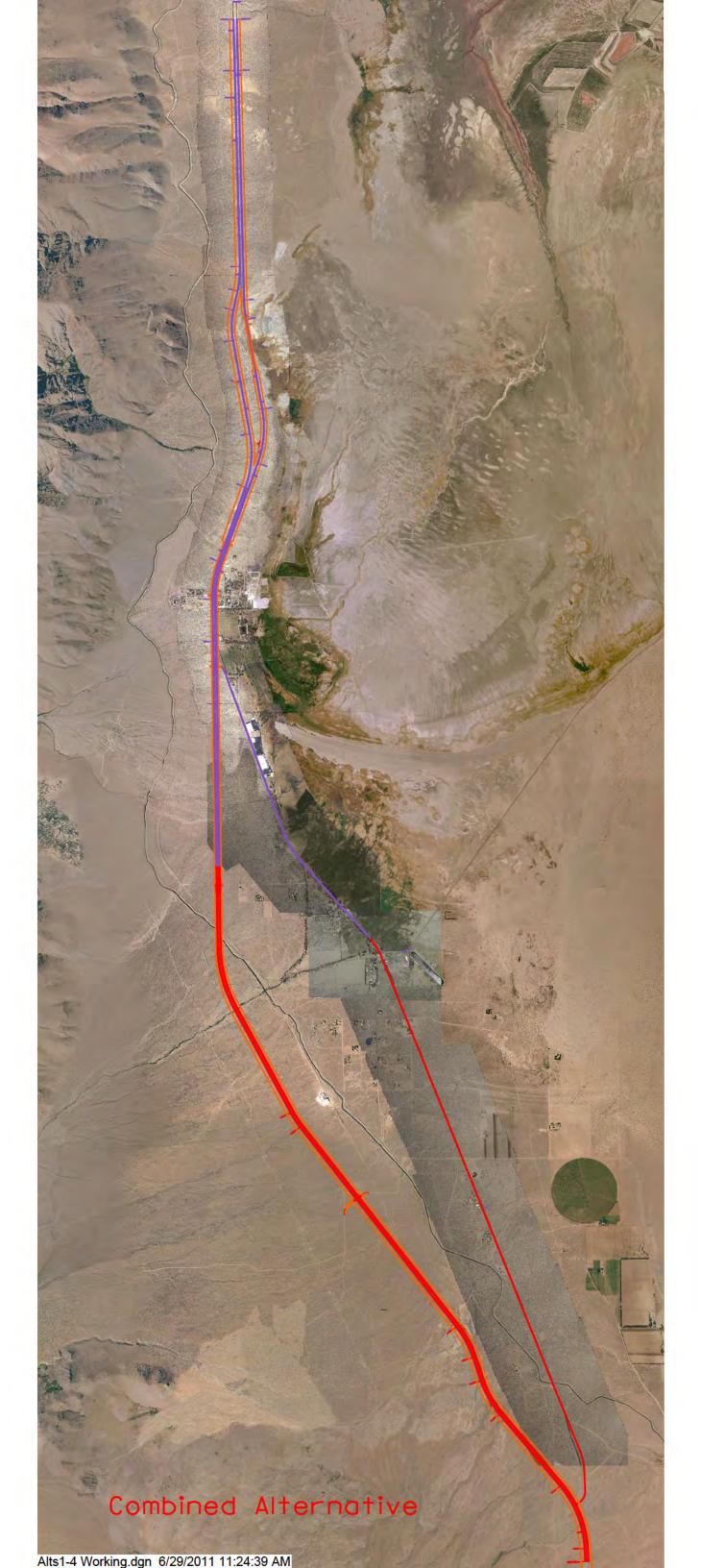
Combining the alternatives takes advantage of the best that each had to offer. The final choice will reduce environmental impacts, residence relocations, direct impacts to businesses, increase safety, and best meet the purpose and need of the project. "We have an opportunity to save lives" said District 9 Director Tom Hallenbeck.

The combined alternative is a controlled access divided expressway that would begin south of Olancha and pass west of Olancha and the Los Angeles Aqueduct (Alternative 4). Once the alignment crosses Olancha Creek, the preferred alternative would then cross the Los Angeles Aqueduct and continue north through Cartago along the existing highway to meet up with the previously constructed Ash Creek Four Lane Project (Alternative 3).

Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in 2016.

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Tom Hallenbeck District 9 Director for Caltrans meets with project staff to chose a Preferred Alternative for the Olancha/Cartego 4 Lane Project in Bishop, CA on June 26, 2011.



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District 9 Director Tom Hallenbeck reviews the presented alternatives for the Olancha Cartego 4 Lane Project in Bishop on June 26, 2011.